

CD NO.

25X1A

COUNTRY Czechoslovakia

DATE DISTR. 30 OCT 50

SUBJECT **Antiaircraft Training Center at Zilina**

NO. OF PAGES 3

25X1A

PLACE
ACQUIRED

NO. OF ENCLS. 2
(LISTED BELOW)

DATE OF
INFO.

25X1X

SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

1. Army Unit No. 5215 at Zilina, [redacted] is known as the "School of Defense Against Aircraft" (Uceliste obrany proti letadlum - UOPL). Prior to 9 September 1949, this unit was located in Prague XVIII-Pohorelec and had the cover number 8806 and [redacted]. The unit is directly subordinated to the Artillery Section of the General Staff, Ministry of National Defense in Prague.
2. Completely reliable officer cadets and non-commissioned officers are sent from all parts of Czechoslovakia to this training center, which has two schools. About 600 non-commissioned officers per class are trained for three months and then commissioned as reserve officers. Selected graduates are then sent to the academy for career officers where seventy men are trained for one year. The discipline at the training center is very strict. About 35 percent of the men are believed to be Communists. Political schooling conducted by the Enlightenment Officer is not effective and students are afraid to take part in discussion. It is estimated that 50 percent of them would attempt to desert in case they were sent to fight against the West.
3. Known officers at the training center are:
- | | |
|---------------------------|--|
| Commanding Officer | Col. Jaroslav Taboraky, a Czech, born about 1903; a member of the Communist Party after February 1948. |
| Deputy Commanding Officer | Lt. Col. Vojtech Zamorsky, born about 1900; a Communist Party member. |
| Enlightenment Officer | Lt. Antonin Hrbek, a Czech, born about 1923; a fanatical Communist. |
| Quartermaster | Staff Capt. Beranek, a Czech, born about 1900; a Communist Party member but not a convinced Communist. |
| Chief of Staff | Lt. Col. Vladimir Perr, a Czech, born about 1903; a Communist Party member. |

CLASSIFICATION

~~SECRET~~ CONTROL - U.S. OFFICIALS ONLY

[illegible]

CONFIDENTIAL is hereby regarded to
letter of 16 October 1978 from the
Director of Central Intelligence to the
Archivist of the United States.
Next Review Date: 2008

Document No. 22
No Change In Class. ☐
☒ Declared
Class. Changed To: TS S
Auth.: HR 70-2
Date: 3/26/68

~~SECRET/CONTROL~~ - U.S. OFFICIALS ONLY 25X1A

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

- 2 -

Assistant to Chief of Staff	1st Lt. Ladislav Soldat, a Czech, born about 1921; a fanatical Communist.
Supply Officer	1st Lt. Ondrej Luptak, a Slovak, born about 1918; a Communist Party member.
Armament Officer	Lt. Lubomir Srbek, a Czech, born about 1926; a fanatical Communist.
Transportation Officer	Lt. Bebrich Radimsky (formerly Rosenberg), a Czech, born about 1900; Communist Party member.
Chief of the Office Staff	Lt. Jan Klas, a Czech, born about 1902; a Communist Party member.
Commanding Officer of the Military Academy	Ing. Maj. Frantisek Vrtek, a Czech, born about 1904; a Communist Party member.
Deputy Commanding Officer of the Reserve Officers' School	Staff Capt. Alois Sterba.
Instructor in Measuring Instruments	Staff Capt. Rudolf Janda, a Czech, born about 1905; a Communist Party member.
Gunnery Officer	Maj. Frantisek Havlicek, a Czech, born about 1904; a Communist Party member.
Battery Commander	Capt. Kvetos Krasnican, a Slovak, born about 1905; a Communist Party member.
DOZ Officer	Staff Capt. Karol Kremery, a Slovak, born about 1908; a devoted and brutal Communist.

4. The antiaircraft gun battery at the training center has the following equipment:
- a. 4 heavy antitank guns, model German 88N.
 - b. 4 light antitank guns, model Soviet 37S.
 - c. 4-6 antiaircraft machine guns with two to four barrels each, German manufacture, caliber unknown but considered to be fairly large.
 - d. An unknown number of German 200 cm searchlights.
 - e. Radar equipment, main fire control and aggregates of German type.
 - f. 12 trucks, 5-ton Studebaker.
 - g. 2 trucks, 10 ton Tatra 111.
 - h. 2 half tracks, TN-4.
 - i. 2 assault cars, 1949 Skoda "Tudor", 11.01 liter cylinder capacity.
 - j. 7 "Jawa" motorcycles, 2.5 liter cylinder capacity.
 - k. 1 delivery truck, 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ -ton.
5. A heavy antiaircraft gun has a crew of 10 men, a light antiaircraft gun 9 men. The heavy gun weighs 7,500 kg including the gun carriage which weighs 2,500 kg alone. Both heavy and light guns are towed either by Studebaker trucks or by armored half-tracks, depending upon surface conditions. The strength of an artillery battery is about 150 men including the signal platoon.
6. Practice firing of light and heavy antiaircraft guns using live ammunition is done at the military training ground near Malacky. Tests of a new heavy antiaircraft gun, model "Albert", caliber 88 mm, produced by Skoda, were made during June 1949. This new gun is of the same construction as the German 88N, the

~~SECRET/CONTROL~~ - U.S. OFFICIALS ONLY

~~SECRET~~/CONTROL - U.S. OFFICIALS ONLY

25X1A

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

- 3 -

gun has a table mounted on the right side of the breech. Movable belts containing five shells are placed on this table. The first shell must be loaded and fired by hand; succeeding ones may be fired either by hand or automatically. During the tests, the guns were fired at a bag towed by an airplane flying at an altitude of 2,500 m. The results were not satisfactory and the guns were returned to Skoda for re-examination. Since that time no new guns have been tested on the range at Malacky.

7. There is an ammunition dump near the firing range at Malacky. Ammunition is brought there by truck.
8. A supply of armament and equipment is located in the Hurban caserne (in Zilina) near the command building. German uniforms are still being used; only the khaki-colored uniform is of Czech make.
9. During July 1949 a change in the placement of antiaircraft guns was adopted to conform with the Soviet system. Instead of placing a light gun beside a heavy one, all heavy guns are in the center and the light ones on the sides. The large caliber machine guns stand behind the battery.
10. Two civilian guards and one officer with four soldiers guard the caserne where the training center is located. Machine-gun emplacements protected by sand bags were constructed on the roofs of the caserne during October 1949.

Encl:

- 1 Sketch of Hurban Caserne, Headquarters of Antiaircraft Training Center, Zilina, with legend

~~SECRET~~/CONTROL - U.S. OFFICIALS ONLY